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## East Boys Bowling Takes Fourth at States

Team captures handful of 200-plus games, comes home proud.

By [Ashley Milito](#)

"Win on three, win on three! One, two, three... WIN!" These words have been the rally chant of the Sachem East boys bowling team all season, and seem to have some magic behind them.

During the regular season, the team bowled 36 matches, and was undefeated through its first 20.

Mike Stanek, who has coached Sachem bowling for 25 years, has been through the ups and downs of the coaching world, but this year's team seemed extra special.

"I expected big results going into this year," he said.

With four of five starting bowlers averaging over 200, the Sachem East boys team had a terrific season. Highlights include a perfect 300 game by Jeremy Milito against Patchogue Medford.

"We really worked together well this season," he said. "You always knew that if you were having a bad day, your team was there to pick you up."

The team has been like a family, and brothers Mark and Steve Sabella have had the unique experience of bowling together for their high school.

Other bright moments from the year include a high game of 288 for senior Bryan Evans. For the three seniors on the team, this season was bittersweet. They spoke of hardly ever winning in big competitions together, and how much they hoped that this would turn around.

The transformation occurred on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> as the team headed into the Suffolk County championship at Sayville Lanes. Though East Islip was favored to win, Sachem East led from Game 1 and was never passed. Winning by 58 pins, and posting scores of 200 plus across the board, the boys had something to be proud of.

From there, it was on to the New York State tournament in Poughkeepsie on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

"I'm so glad they get to experience the possibility of winning at the state level," said Chris Keller, owner of Bowl Long Island, the home house of the team, and father of Lee Keller, one of the team's seniors. "It's been great getting to know this group, I have high expectations."

Equally high were the expectations of Stanek.

"I told them it's a long day and to take the same approach as with Counties. Be consistent."

The state competition consisted of six games, with tournament officials posting results after each game. Family and friends poured into the bowling arena in droves. After a long day of hard work, and many 200 plus games, East finished fourth.

This team set a standard of what's to come for Sachem bowling.

## **Sachem East Bowling Team Accomplishments:**

Fifth Place at the Singles/Doubles Tournament Award: Jeremy Milito

League Three Championship Awards: Sachem East

High Series Award: Jeremy Milito (783)

200+ Season Average Awards: Lee Keller (208.69), Bryan Evans (211.06) and Jeremy Milito (226.71)

High Game Award: Bryan Evans (288)

300 Game Award: Jeremy Milito (300)

All-League Second Team Award: Lee Keller

All-League First Team Awards: Steve Sabella, Mark Sabella, Bryan Evans and Jeremy Milito

County Championship Awards: Sachem East

Sportsmanship Award: Lee Keller

